EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE MEMORY OF TRACIE ALEXANDER GOLDEN

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2023

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in memory of Tracie Alexander Golden, a mother, wife, tireless community advocate, healthcare provider, and fearless SEIU Union leader from Michigan's 12th District Strong as our community mourns her recent passing.

Tracie was a respiratory therapist who dedicated her life to helping people with severe health issues. As she spent countless hours at the hospital, working long shifts and saving lives, Tracie never once complained about the toll it took on her own health. She truly believed that her calling was to serve others, and she did so with a heart full of love and empathy. She was a selfless and compassionate woman who always put the needs of her patients and her family before her own.

Tracie's advocacy, impact and care for others was profound not only amongst her family and loved ones but also towards her patients and community. Tracie's acts of service were boundless, and she never shied away from showing up for others. Her passionate and caring spirit will no doubt live on through her family and those that she served and those that she cared for at Sinai Grace Hospital.

Tracie's sudden and tragic passing is truly a loss to our district and community. Her memory will forever be preserved in the work she led for others and the commitment she showed in service.

Please join me in honoring the life of Ms. Tracie Alexander Golden and extending our deepest condolences to the Golden family on her tragic loss. The 12th Congressional District honors her life and legacy.

RECOGNIZING MRS. SHAWNA CRIST AS THE OKALOOSA COUNTY EDUCATION SUPPORT EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

HON. MATT GAETZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Tuesday, January 31, 2023

Mr. GAETZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Mrs. Shawna Crist as the Okaloosa County Education Support Employee of the Year. Plew Elementary School is lucky to have someone like Mrs. Crist who serves the school with passion and an unwavering commitment to its success.

Mrs. Crist spent 13 years as an excellent teacher before working in education support. Her accomplishments include being selected as the Baker School Teacher of the Year in 1990 and the Teacher of the Year for Bluewater Elementary and Okaloosa County in 1994. After her teaching career, she became

a full-time volunteer at Plew Elementary where she received the 2012 Senior Adult Volunteer of the Year Award.

Mrs. Crist is currently the Media Assistant for Plew Elementary, where she enjoys working to share ideas with others throughout Okaloosa County that promote the school and its students. She constantly strives to be the best and provide the best as well. I applaud her for her unwavering commitment to serving the students of Okaloosa County.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize Mrs. Crist for her many accomplishments and her commitment to excellence and professionalism in the Okaloosa County School District. I thank her for her service and wish her all the best for her continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2023

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed a vote. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 85, and NAY on Roll Call No. 62.

OPPOSING CONSERVATIVE CENSORSHIP

HON. GUY RESCHENTHALER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES $Tuesday, January \ 31, \ 2023$

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Mr. Speaker, I rise with deep concerns regarding big technology companies' ongoing efforts to silence conservatives on media platforms. In the wake of the 2020 New York Post's Hunter Biden Laptop story censored by social media platforms and news stations, Americans saw firsthand the government and media collaborating to silence the truth to influence a presidential election. As a pillar of the U.S. Constitution, free speech is critical to our civil discourse, and denying viewers access to a wide array of news opinions and stories is a dangerous precedent.

Further, I am deeply troubled on February 22, 2021, some Democrat members of the House Energy and Commerce Committee used their power to push for censorship of television networks like Newsmax, Fox News, and One America News Network. This was a blatant attempt by Democrats to silence conservatives and push their thumb to influence free speech and the upcoming midterm election.

I believe all voices and political views should be fairly represented and accessible so my constituents can access a wide variety of content. That is why, on January 20, 2023, I wrote to DirecTV's Chief Executive Officer, Mr.

William Morrow, regarding their contract negotiations with Newsmax to ensure both parties come to a solution. Sadly, last week, the contract between Newsmax and DirecTV expired. I urge both parties to return to the negotiating table, so Pennsylvanians do not lose access to this vital cable news channel.

Mr. Speaker, this dangerous trend and bias towards conservatives can no longer last in the public sphere. Television providers like DirecTV are uniquely positioned to ensure fair consideration in programming distributions regardless of political affiliations.

HONORING MR. BARRY FISHER'S OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS IN AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION EFFORTS

HON. JAMES R. BAIRD

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Tuesday, January 31, 2023

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor my friend and this year's Certified Crop Adviser Conservationist of the Year award recipient, Barry Fisher. A French Lick, Indiana native, Barry's love for agriculture began at a young age on his family's farm. Upon graduation from Western Kentucky University in 1983, Barry began his Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) career serving in locales across Indiana where he acted as a soil conservationist in Southeast Indiana, an area agronomist for West Central Indiana, and a State Soil Health Specialist.

In 2015, Barry was one of the original members of the NRCS National Soil Health Division and was instrumental in delivering soil health training to the agency's staff across the nation. As the first Central Region leader of the newly formed Soil Health Division, he carried out one of the most successful training and outreach campaigns the United States Department of Agriculture has ever known, nosting events with tens of thousands in attendance and driving millions to web-based resources.

Since his retirement from NRCS in 2020, Fisher established Fisher Soil Health, a consulting service that provides training on advanced soil health management systems. He also continues to serve as an expert speaker and trainer, promoting the adoption of soil health practices to farmers and conservation staff.

Based on the 2022 Conservation Transect data, over two-thirds of Indiana's row crop acres are undisturbed through fall and winter months, and 1,600,000 of those acres are seeded to green living cover during those months—only 12.5 percent of those cover crop acres were seeded with financial program assistance. When the transect began measuring green living cover in 2011, there were about 184,000 acres. The increase in those covered acres can be attributed, in part, to Fisher's tireless efforts to promote and educate about cover crops and soil health.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor. Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor. Barry and his wife continue to operate their West Central Indiana-based farm where they employ the strategies he developed and perfected, and their farm now acts as a living laboratory to many conservation groups who travel from across the country to learn about soy health. Barry's contributions to our agriculture industry are immeasurable, and I can think of no one more deserving of this well-deserved honor.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON, COLIN Z. ALLRED

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Tuesday, January 31, 2023

Mr. ALLRED. Mr. Speaker, on January 30, 2023, I was absent during the time of votes due to illness. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 94, H.R. 500, Financial Exploitation Prevention Act.

REINTRODUCTION OF THE STU-DENTS HELPING YOUNG STU-DENTS ACT

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2023

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to reintroduce the Students Helping Young Students Act. This important legislation will invest in college students who support and mentor K-12 students at after-school activities. This legislation will make a meaningful difference in the lives of all Hoosier students, and young Americans across the country, by ensuring that college students can be compensated for the critical work of mentoring and supporting their younger counterparts. I would like to thank my Senate Colleague, Senator CORY BOOKER, for leading the companion of this important legislation.

It is an honor to represent students of all ages in Indiana's Seventh District. I am continually impressed by the many college students in my district and across the country that, in addition to their studies, help mentor and support K-12 students in after-school programs. These college students, by serving as powerful examples and mentors, continue to inspire my colleagues and I about the importance of peer mentorship opportunities. This includes the crucial role of work-study programs in helping students finance their postsecondary education.

Several examples in Indiana underscore the importance of supporting mentorship programs, both to the mentee and the mentor. The influence and investment from a mentor can improve younger student lives and outcomes. Their stories are common: in fact, atrisk youth that have a mentor are 55 percent more likely to attend college. Moreover, at-risk youth that have a mentor are 52 percent less likely to skip a day of school and 46 percent less likely to use drugs. Mentoring also increases community engagement, as at-risk students are 78 percent more likely to volunteer in their community and are 130 percent more likely to hold a leadership role in clubs or teams with a mentor in their lives. Mentoring not only helps students stay away from drugs and violence, but also live healthier lives and improve school performance. Mentees participating in mentorship programs have also performed higher on the Indiana Statewide Testing for Educational Progress (ISTEP) tests.

Because of these unmistakable benefits, Congress must do more to support these after-school programs and their student mentors. Although after-school mentorship programs often intersect with students' courses of study and benefit the community, after-school activities are not currently considered a community service under the Federal Work-Study program. This means that college students cannot rely on compensation from Federal Work-Study for their participation in after-school activities.

The Federal Work-Study program has helped support undergraduate and graduate students, who have exhibited financial need, find part-time jobs. The Federal Work-Study program employs hundreds of thousands of undergraduate and graduate students. Across all higher education, 7 in 10 college students work at least 15 hours per week to help cover their tuition, and 1 in 4 work more than 35 hours a week. While mentorship's benefits are clear, the absence of after-school activities from consideration as work-study programs causes students with financial need to more often pursue other opportunities. This means that many students are unable to serve in mentorship roles, even if it aligns with their course of study, for financial reasons. This dynamic exacerbates the widening mentoring gap, which includes the over 9 million young people without a mentor outside their family to support their growth and education.

As a result, more work needs to be done to help compensate students who choose to serve their communities by mentoring younger students. That is why the Students Helping Young Students Act is so important. This bill incorporates work at after-school programs into the Federal Work-Study Program under community service by making participation in these programs eligible for federal funds. In short, this bill allows college students to access Federal Work-Study funds for their participation in after-school activities.

Through the Students Helping Young Students Act, after-school mentoring programs will count as community service under the Federal Work-Study program. Students can be compensated for their work, including time spent in training and travel, directly related to the program. This will allow any student who wishes to serve in their community to participate in mentorship activities, regardless of their financial background. As a result, the Students Helping Young Students Act will also help close the mentoring gap and ensure that younger students, especially those from disadvantaged backgrounds, have the support they need to succeed and reach their goals.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this bill to ensure that Federal Work-Study students are compensated for their mentorship efforts. It is important that Congress supports these students in their pursuit to serve our communities. I urge the House to support this bill.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JIMMIE MASSIE III

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2023

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the life and memory of James "Jimmie" Pleasants Massie III, who tragically passed away on January 25, 2023, at age 64. My prayers are with his family and loved ones, especially his wife, Elizabeth, and his children, Jimmie, William, Becky, and John.

Jimmie was a caring husband, father, son, brother, grandfather, friend, and so much more. He also had a strong passion for public service and cared deeply for his community. I had the honor of knowing Jimmie throughout his time in public service when he served as the Henrico County Delegate in the Virginia House of Delegates. Jimmie's colleagues and community remember and honor him as a strong leader and passionate advocate for the issues facing his community. I am personally grateful for his leadership in Virginia, and I know that our communities are stronger because of his time in office.

Jimmie was, and is, well-loved and highly respected amongst his family and community, and his memory will not soon be forgotten. I pray that his family and loved ones may be comforted as they mourn his loss. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me in honoring the life and legacy of Jimmie Massie.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ARTHUR WILLIAM FRAZIER

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2023

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a distinguished military veteran. Mr. Arthur William Frazier transitioned from this life on January 21, 2023, in Fort Gordon, Georgia. He dedicated his life to serving our great Nation and should be honored and celebrated for his service.

Arthur Frazier was born on July 25, 1953, to the late Hubert Same and Julia Mae "Molly" Frazier in Cope, South Carolina. One of 5 siblings, he developed deep roots to his community, attending school at the George Washington Carver School as well as Edisto High School. He graduated from Edisto High School in 1971, and shortly thereafter embarked on what would become a lifetime of military service.

In 1971, Mr. Frazier joined the United States Army. He was a trailblazer, becoming the first African American 1st Sergeant in the South Carolina National Guard Armory in Orangeburg, South Carolina. He was also the first African American to serve as Surface Maintenance Supervisor at the Field Maintenance Shop No. 14 in Varnville, South Carolina. Mr. Frazier received his Warrant Officer commission in 2003. From 2007 to 2008, he served a tour in Afghanistan, and honorably retired in 2013.

Throughout his 42 years of military service, he was recognized with many awards and accolades. For his domestic service, he received

the Legion of Merit, the Army Achievement Medal 2nd Award, the Army Good Conduct 2nd Award, and the South Carolina Palmetto Service Ribbon, among many others. For his service abroad, he received the Overseas Service Ribbon, NATO Medal, Global War on Terrorism Medal, and Afghanistan Campaign Medal.

Mr. Frazier was a man of faith and a lifelong member of Emmanuel AME Church in his hometown of Cope. South Carolina. He was an active participant in the church, serving at various times as a Class Leader, Choir Member, President of the Sunday School Department, and Financial Administrator. He is lovingly remembered by his wife of 42 years, Helen "Judy" Frazier, as well as their 3 children, Shenika Frederick, CoSaundra Rivers, Arthur "AJ" Frazier, Jr., and 5 grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues join me in recognizing the highly decorated life of service led by Mr. Arthur W. Frazier. He served his country with dignity and pride for over 4 decades. He will be sorely missed and well-remembered.

HONORING LARRY NESS ON HIS BANKING CAREER OF MORE THAN 50 YEARS

HON. DUSTY JOHNSON

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2023

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Larry Ness on his banking career of more than 50 years in South Dakota.

As CEO of First Dakota National Bank in Yankton, South Dakota, Larry helped the company rebound once he joined over 40 years ago. Prior to working with First Dakota National Bank, Larry was a bank examiner at the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Over the last 40 years, Larry and his wife Diane have dedicated an incredible amount of time, talent, and treasure to Yankton and the whole state of South Dakota. They have been among the very best citizens and community members I've ever met. Larry's leadership has left a legacy in the state of South Dakota and we are grateful for his service.

I wish him all the best in his retirement and as he continues to serve as Chairman of the Board for First Dakota National Bank.

COMMEMORATING THE 200TH ANNI-VERSARY OF THE TOWN OF SCIO

HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2023

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the Town of Scio in Allegany County, New York

The Town of Scio was named after the Greek Island of Scio in the Aegean Sea because in 1820, the western world was horrified by the slaying of Christians on the island. The founding fathers of the town were so moved by a speech given by Daniel Webster honoring the Christians that died and wanted to

name the town Scio in memoriam. The Town of Scio was first settled at the mouth of Knight Creek and was a crucial community to the building of the Erie railroad.

Whether they are lifelong residents or new in town, the citizens of Scio love their town. A tight knit community of only 1,625, the neighbors in this town look out for each other.

Two hundred years as a community and a town is certainly a cause for celebration. I congratulate the Town of Scio for withstanding the tests of time and look forward to many more years of Scio providing a welcoming community for our friends, neighbors and visitors.

Given the above, I ask that this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations and join me to celebrate the Town of Scio's 200th anniversary.

HONORING KAREN REINER

HON. ANDY KIM

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2023

Mr. KIM of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Karen Reiner, who is being honored as the 2023 Citizen of the Year for Moorestown, New Jersey. This year's award recognizes a Moorestown resident who has positively impacted the quality of life for everyone in our community.

Karen's family raised her to have a deep sense of service and to look out for her surrounding community. This upbringing spurred her desire to always emulate the values she learned growing up—involvement, kindness, and service. She has dedicated her life to partnering with those in the community to create programs and environments where people know they can feel safe and respected.

Karen both co-founded and served as President of MooreUnity, a non-profit civic group centered on promoting inclusion within the community. Through her work building bridges across divides, MooreUnity has continued to support local efforts to root out prejudice and discrimination. Hosting about ten programs every year, MooreUnity provides discussion panels and workshops to learn about the damaging impact of discrimination as well as to teach people about how understanding and acceptance can bring people together in the face of injustice and hate. Karen has even helped children learn to interact with their peers as well and how to stand up to bullying and prejudice they experience or see thrust at others.

In addition to MooreUnity, Karen is also working to heal political divides within our community. Through the Moorestown Braver Angel Alliance, she has hosted multiple workshops with Republicans and Democrats to learn and implement techniques to communicate effectively and civilly despite different political beliefs. As a co-founder and active member of the Moorestown Directory Group, Karen also works to bring people together from different walks of service including non-profits, people interested and active in civic engagement, and religious groups to name a few.

Beyond this work and these organizations, Karen also finds time to for local community service. She has served as a Girl Scout Troop leader and previously led an effort to place five kindness benches at each of the local elementary schools in Moorestown as well as the Jeff Young Park. Karen also works with numerous organizations centered on gun violence prevention including Sandy Hook Promise and Moms Demand Action.

For years across multiple sectors, Karen has made Moorestown a better place and has been an example for so many in the volunteer community. Described as an inspiration, I am proud to congratulate Karen for winning the 2023 Citizen of the Year for Moorestown, New Jersey and thank her for her continued service to our community.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNUAL NOR-WEGIAN RECIPROCAL TROOPS EXCHANGE

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Tuesday, January 31, 2023

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 50th annual Norwegian Reciprocal Troops Exchange between the Minnesota National Guard and the Norwegian Home Guard. Known as NOREX, this annual exchange between the United States of America and the Kingdom of Norway is the world's longest-running military partnership, an enduring tradition which continues to strengthen the bonds between our two countries. Not only is this anniversary a cause for celebration, but it is particularly fitting that it occur as the Minnesota National Guard and the Norwegian Home Guard prepare to formalize this friendship as official partners in the National Guard State Partnership Program.

This month, more than one hundred Soldiers and Airmen of the Minnesota National Guard will travel to Norway and conduct winter operations training with the Norwegian Home Guard, known as Heimevernet. This unique training opportunity takes place over five days in Norway's countryside and includes skiing techniques, avalanche training, emergency food rationing, bivouac routines, constructing a lean-to, and building and lighting a fire. Meanwhile, members of the Norwegian Home Guard will travel to Camp Ripley in Minnesota, to learn joint domestic response exercises with local law enforcement.

In addition to military training, our Soldiers and Airmen will participate in cultural exchanges by spending a weekend with Norwegian host families and visiting cultural sites. Similarly, the visiting Norwegian troops will enjoy American cultural experiences such as attending a Minnesota Wild hockey game, visiting the Mall of America, enjoying walleye at a local VFW fish fry, and being the guests of honor at an official dinner hosted by the Saint Paul-based civic organization Serving Our Troops.

Of course, it is especially fitting that the Minnesota National Guard participate in this exchange. Thousands of immigrants from Norway came to Minnesota during the 1800s. Today, over 850,000 Minnesotans claim Norwegian ancestry—myself included. Minnesotans more Norwegian-Americans than any other state and these Minnesotans keep alive many proud traditions passed down from their Nordic ancestors. In Congress, I have been proud to honor Norwegian-American heritage

as a co-chair of the Friends of Norway Caucus.

Additionally, as Chair of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense in the 117th Congress, I had the incredible privilege last year to travel to Norway to meet with senior leadership of the Norwegian Armed Forces and conduct oversight on prepositioned stocks of U.S. military equipment in country. As Vladimir Putin continues his unprovoked, unjust, and illegal invasion of Ukraine, it is more important than ever that the United States stand in support of our democratic allies. That includes those with geographic vulnerabilities to Russian aggression, like Norway.

Formalizing the Minnesota National Guard's relationship with Norway through the State Partnership Program will serve to strengthen Norway's military readiness in the face of the Russian threat. And the continuation of NOREX will enhance our own military readiness and further cooperation between the United States and a key NATO ally, all while promoting goodwill and mutual respect between our nations.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the 50th anniversary of this special military and cultural partnership with a traditional Nordic salute: Skol.

RECOGNIZING THE JANUARY CONSTITUENT OF THE MONTH

HON. MIKE LEVIN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Tuesday, January 31, 2023

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to recognize Myrone "Bruce" Gaffney as my January Constituent of the Month. Bruce is a retired veteran who served in the United States Army for 17 years.

Bruce began serving in the United States Army in 1998. In 2013, while serving in Afghanistan, Bruce sustained an injury to his spine. He spent the next two years in rehabilitation at Walter Reed Medical Center, but his injury has made him one hundred percent disabled. Since 2015, Bruce has been on Social Security—a lifeline for him and so many others across the country.

I am proud to honor Mvrone "Bruce" Gaffney as my Constituent of the Month and announce that he will be my guest to the 2023 State of the Union. It is an honor to represent veterans in my district, and Bruce exemplifies the bravery, perseverance, and dedication that makes our community an amazing place to live. His injury has not stopped him from going above and beyond to enrich our community. In his free time, he has served on my Congressional Service Academy Panel that helps me select the next generation of men and women to attend our esteemed military service academies.

As Republicans discuss cutting Americans' hard-earned Social Security benefits, such as those Bruce relies on, I'm proud to highlight Bruce as one of my constituents whose life would drastically be affected if benefits were slashed. His expansive military background, resilience, and service to our Nation and district make me proud to honor Myrone "Bruce" Gaffney as my January Constituent of the Month.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARY SATTLER PELTOLA

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2023

Mrs. PELTOLA. Mr. Speaker, I briefly stepped out for personal reasons and was unable to make it back to the floor in time to vote on this bill. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on Roll Call No. 93.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2023

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed a vote. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on roll call No. 41.

RECOGNIZING MR. NORM
PETERSON UPON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. HALEY M. STEVENS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2023

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the illustrious career of Mr. Norman "Norm" D. Peterson upon his retirement from Argonne National Laboratory. Norm has been a leader in the science, technology, and innovation realm for over 35 years, and it has been an honor to learn from and, at times, work alongside his expertise. Norm's commitment to the scientific enterprise of this nation and the policymakers who shape its work will have a lasting impact into the future. Please help me celebrate this remarkable servant of the public interest and wish him well as he embarks upon this next chapter.

Early in his career, Norm Peterson was identified as a skilled leader in the science, technology, and economic development issues. Upon the creation of the Illinois Governor's Commission on Science and Technology, Norm was selected to become its first Executive Director. In this role, he oversaw the commission's creation and administration of a technology-oriented economic development program. This comprehensive plan incorporated technology transfer projects at universities and national laboratories and investment fund allocations to support the development of start-up, technology-driven businesses, show-Norm's extensive knowledge of casing science, technology, and economic develop-

Norm's career at Argonne National Laboratory began in 1987. Though the laboratory had been operational for many years prior, its scope vastly expanded over the past 35 years, with Norm playing a crucial role in cultivating Argonne's reputation of excellence during this time. Argonne National Laboratory is now one of the U.S. Department of Energy's largest national laboratories for science and engineering research, housing over 1,250 scientists and engineers working to solve our nation's most pressing challenges in energy, the environment, and national security.

The expertise that Norm brought to his work led him to become the Director of Government Affairs for Argonne, a role that he crafted himself to maximize the efforts of the lab moving into the 21st century. His skill was heavily leaned upon as Argonne directed the construction of 3 major national user facilities—the Advanced Photon Source, Argonne Leadership Computing Facility, and Center for Nanoscale Materials. In addition, he was instrumental in launching the Guest House as the first state-funded building in the national lab complex and in his work helping plan the Joint Center for Energy Storage Research and the Q-NEXT quantum center.

Stakeholders from across the country recognize Norm as a valuable resource to science and technology research efforts, earning him membership on several boards and advisory groups. He earned a place on the Editorial Board of the Journal of Urban Technology, the University of Puerto Rico Center for Advanced Nanoscale Materials External Advisory Board, and the Northern Illinois University Research Foundation Board, among others. In addition to his professional contributions, he is also a dedicated servant to youth in his community, by previously serving on the Board of Directors for the Youth Campus, providing residential and community based social services to abused and neglected children.

In his retirement, Norm and his beloved partner, Lori Clark, are eager to enjoy international travel and spend more time with his daughter, Erika Peterson, and granddaughter, Emma. The couple intends on remaining in the Chicago area as they enter the next chapter of Norm's prolific life, and despite his retirement, I am certain that we will hear more from him in the years to come.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to celebrate my friend and mentor, Mr. Norman D. Peterson, for his incredible contributions toward scientific and technological advancement in our nation. Colleagues, please join me in celebrating Norm Peterson and wishing him well as he transitions into his well-earned retirement.

RECOGNIZING MR. ROYAL PRESTON AS THE OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. MATT GAETZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2023

Mr. GAETZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Mr. Royal Preston as the Okaloosa County Teacher of the Year. For several years, Mr. Preston has served Okaloosa Technical College with talent, passion, and an unwavering commitment to good education.

Northwest Florida is fortunate to have some of the best teachers in the country. The teaching profession is one of the most challenging yet rewarding professions in existence. Mr. Preston has performed his teaching duties exceptionally while also being an active and supportive member of his community.

Mr. Preston's support and outreach extend far beyond the walls of his classroom through his active involvement in his school and community. Mr. Preston worked as a building contractor, building over 200 houses and commercial projects. While Teaching Building Trades

and Carpentry for 29 years, he is passionate about sharing his craft and skills with his students. I commend him for his steadfast willingness to serve those that matter most—the students and the next generation of Americans.

I am truly proud to have Mr. Preston as a constituent in Florida's First Congressional District.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize Mr. Preston for his many accomplishments and his commitment to excellence, professionalism, and innovation in the Okaloosa County School District. I thank him for his service and wish him all the best for his continued success.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DEFENSE ACCESS ROADS IMPROVEMENT ACT

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Tuesday, January 31, 2023

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce the "Defense Access Roads Improvement Act," which would make commonsense reforms to reduce congestion outside military installations. The Defense Access Roads (DAR) program is a unique partnership between the U.S. Departments of Defense (DOD) and Transportation. Under the program, the Secretary of Defense designates civilian roadways that provide critical access for domestic military installations as Defense Access Roads, making them eligible for military construction funding transferred to the Department of Transportation for road improvements off base.

Military installations anchor communities across the Nation, including Tavis Air Force Base in my Congressional district. The DAR ensures the DOD pays for maintenance, upkeep, or upgrades of roads impacted by military traffic and the constant movement of heavy equipment and vehicles.

My "Defense Access Roads Improvement Act" would create a new, public process for state, county, or municipal governments to petition the Department of Defense to designate new Defense Access Roads, unlocking military funding for needed roadway improvements off base. My bill would establish a new online database for designated Defense Access Roads and any outstanding federal funding requests, which improves public transparency and holds the Pentagon accountable. Lastly, my bill would also allow roads leading to commercial shipyards used by the U.S. Navy or Coast Guard to be designated as Defense Access Roads under the program, instead of just seaports as under current law.

This is a continuation of my work last Congress on the House Armed Forces Subcommittee on Readiness, which oversees all U.S. military installations and the Defense Access Road Program. I am committed to securing additional federal investment in off-base infrastructure. As a senior member of both the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, I plan to make this legislation a top priority.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all Members to join me in cosponsoring the "Defense Access Roads Improvement Act."

RECOGNIZING REVEREND DOCTOR RICHARD WHITE

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2023

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, today, I want to recognize Reverend Dr. Richard White of Detroit's Dexter Avenue Baptist Church on the occasion of his installation as president of the Council of Baptist Pastors of Detroit and Vicinity.

Reverend Dr. White was inspired by the call to the ministry at a young age. At the age of 17, he was licensed to preach at Beth Eden Missionary Baptist Church under the late Pastor Ocie Tabb, Jr. At the age of 20, he became an associate minister at Midway Baptist Church under the leadership of his father. Soon after Pastor White was called to pastor Greater Marion Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, where he remained in leadership until 2015 when he accepted the role of senior pastor at Dexter Avenue Baptist Church.

Since becoming spiritual leader, Pastor White has worked hard to strengthen Dexter Avenue Baptist Church, ministering to the spiritual needs of his flock and the surrounding community. A lifelong Detroiter, Pastor White's strong connection to the community has driven his tireless work to set a vision for the future and make strides to bring it to fruition. He has undertaken projects to beautify the area and devoted himself to growing his ministry through community outreach.

Pastor White has been elected as one of the youngest presidents of the Council of Baptist Pastors of Detroit & Vicinity. He also serves as the 3rd vice moderator for the Metropolitan Missionary Baptist District Association. Previously, Pastor White has served in multiple organizational capacities, including president of the Fellowship District Congress of Christian Education, second vice president of the Metropolitan District Congress of Christian Education, general secretary for the Baptist, Missionary and Educational State Convention of Michigan, treasurer and financial secretary for the Council of Baptist Pastors of Detroit and Vicinity, and the financial secretary for Kingdom Building Pastors and People International

Please join me in recognizing Reverend Dr. Richard White's numerous contributions as we celebrate his new role at the Council of Baptist Pastors of Detroit and Vicinity.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2023

Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast my vote on January 30, 2023 for Roll Call Vote 94. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea on Roll Call Vote 94.

HONORING PETER PARUCCINI

HON. DOUG LaMALFA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2023

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and memory of Peter Paruccini of Yuba City. Mr. Paruccini, a loving father and devoted husband, was a bright light in Northern California that was tragically cut short, passing away at the age of 39. His footprint on our area was one of service. The North State has lost one of its heroes.

Peter was a life-long resident of Yuba City, and although he split time between Santa Barbara and Yuba City, he always loved coming home to see the Sutter Buttes. Peter attended college at UC Davis where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in History and Political Science. Peter continued to stay in the area, choosing to teach at an underserved junior high school in Davis. This was the beginning of Peter's lifelong call to serve.

Later in life, Peter felt the call to serve our country in the military. Exchanging his teaching credentials for military boots, Peter joined the United States Army in 2006 serving as an Infantryman. During his military deployment, he stood out for dedication to serve with the utmost distinction, bravery, and honor. Peter's service is something we should all try to emulate.

Upon his return from the military, Peter found a career in law enforcement. Peter worked in both the Bay Area and Ventura County before being recruited out of law enforcement to work with a large utility company thanks to his expertise in project/product management and logistics.

My heartfelt condolences are with the Paruccini family. It is with them that Peter's memory will be kept alive. Peter was a loving father to his son, George; husband to his wife, Celeste; and son to his parents, Stephanie and Luigi. May God bless their family, and may Peter find eternal rest at last. Rest in Peace.

HONORING MS. MARY GATANAS ON HER 80TH BIRTHDAY

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2023

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to celebrate Ms. Mary Gatanas as she reaches a significant milestone in her life—her 80th birthday.

Ms. Gatanas has lived an impressive life up to this juncture. A strong and loving mother to Andrew and Adrienne, grandmother to Tristan, Markella and Tatum, and a devoted military spouse to Major General Harry Gatanas, Mary's selflessness and generosity are a hallmark of every relationship she has forged.

As an Army Officer's spouse through 29 years of service, Ms. Gatanas endeavored to leave her mark on every place she and Major General Gatanas were posted—a tall task considering their 24 separate moves. Nonetheless, everywhere she went, she always went above and beyond for the Army families around her.

In Germany, as a young spouse, she observed the struggles that other Army families faced finding adequate childcare amidst hectic lives as new parents in a new place. Rather than accepting the status quo, Mary put others first, creating a childcare center on base to minimize at least one stressor for these families willing to uproot their lives to serve our country.

Further down the line, on station in New Mexico on the White Sands Missile Range, now the wife of the commanding officer, she once again pushed for improvements on base. Finding that elements of a nutritious diet were hard to come by in this remote location, Ms. Gatanas fought to ensure that fresh produce and dairy products would be available to families in the commissary.

Ms. Gatanas was also an activist for military families off-base. She worked diligently to advocate for legislation that would ensure military spouses would be treated equitably in divorce proceedings when it came to accessing military retirement pay. In 1982, her efforts paid off as the Uniformed Services Former Spouses' Protection Act passed through Congress.

Amidst these impressive accomplishments, Mary never wavered on her number one priority—the up-bringing of her son Andrew and daughter Adrienne. This devotion to her loved ones has continued unfettered, as she now relishes the opportunity to shower her grand-children, Tristan, Markella and Tatum with that same love.

Mr. Speaker, it is evident that wherever Ms. Gatanas lived, she became a catalyst for change, working tirelessly to improve the lives of all those around her. She is well-deserving of our praise on this day. I wish Ms. Gatanas a very happy 80th birthday.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL JOHNSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Tuesday, January 31, 2023

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained, but had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 46.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NATHANIEL MORAN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Tuesday, January 31, 2023

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I was inadvertently detained. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 74.

REINTRODUCTION OF THE TRANSITION-TO-SUCCESS MENTORING ACT

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2023

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, as we mark National Mentoring Month, I am proud to reintroduce legislation to the Transition-To-Success Mentoring Act to help local education agencies prepare at-risk students for the transition from middle school to high school. I would like to thank MENTOR for their endorsement of this bill and Senator BOOKER for his leadership on this legislation in the Senate.

I have had many mentors at every stage of my life, whether it was my theatre teacher in school who encouraged me to be who I am and elevated the confidence in myself to pursue sports, or my grandmother who raised me and a reason I find myself following her large footsteps. Mentors are important at every stage in life and especially at a young age. Our children need to foster these mentor/mentee relationships to look up to someone bigger than themselves.

The Transition-To-Success Mentoring Act would establish a grant program for school-based mentoring programs targeted at helping at-risk middle school students transition from middle to high school. Under my legislation, participating students would develop and execute a formalized plan for success in high school and beyond, and be supported by a school faculty member or volunteer from the community known as a "Success Coach."

Middle school is a uniquely challenging time for students and ensuring a smooth transition from middle to high school is critical to their long-term success. School-based mentoring is innovative supplement to the traditional learning that takes place in the classroom, providing underserved and at-risk students with attention and support to keep them engaged in school. This legislation is a small step towards providing some of the most vulnerable students with individual attention to help cross the bridge towards high school, college, and career.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing the need for mentors for our children by signing on to this important legislation